

REMARKS

The Section 103 Rejections Based on Spies and Shona

Claims 1-3, 5, 12-17, 24-26, 31-32, 34-36 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Spies et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,055,314 ("Spies") in view of Shona et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,018,581 ("Shona"). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Each of the claims of the present invention now includes the feature of an address-limited port which includes an interface for preventing the port (of a decryption store) from addressing at least portions of: (a) key re-transforming information, and (b) a cryptographic key.

Neither Spies nor Shona discloses such an address-limited port that includes such an interface.

Instead, Spies discloses an IC card which operates in conjunction with a set-top box (STB), DVD player or another "video computing device" in such a way that the "decryption capabilities" stored on the IC card are not exposed to a viewer or to the video computing device. Spies does not disclose, or suggest, how the IC card prevents the viewer or video computing device from accessing its decryption capabilities much less disclose or suggest the address-limited port of the present claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 1-3, 5, 12-15, 24-26, 31-32, 36, 38 and new claims 45-48 that have been substituted for original claims 16, 17, 34 and 35.

The Section 103 Rejections Based on Spies in View of Jaffe et al.

Claims 3-4, 32-33 and 36-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Spies in view of Jaffe et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,510,518 ("Jaffe"). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Initially, Applicants note that these claims depend on independent claims discussed above. Applicants further note that Jaffe does nothing to overcome the deficiencies of Spies noted above.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Spies and Jaffe does not render the subject matter of claims 3-4, 32-33 and 36-37 obvious. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 3-4, 32-33 and 36-37.

The Section 103 Rejections Based on Spies and Otway et al.

Claims 6, 18, 27 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Spies in view of Otway et al., U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0205344 ("Otway"). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Again, Applicants note that these claims depend upon independent claims discussed initially above. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that Otway does not overcome the deficiencies discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Spies and Otway does not render obvious the claims of the present invention and kindly request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 6, 18, 27 and 39.

The Section 103 Rejections Based on Spies in view of Novoa et al.

Claims 7, 19, 28 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Spies in view of Novoa et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,493,824, ("Novoa"). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Again, Applicants note that these claims depend upon independent claims discussed initially above. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that Novoa does not overcome the deficiencies discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Spies and Novoa does not render obvious the claims of the present invention and kindly request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 7, 19, 28 and 40.

The Section 103 Rejections Based on Spies in view of Richards

Claims 8-11, 20-23, 29-30 and 41-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Spies in view of Shona and in further view

of Richards, U.S. Patent No. 6,385,723, ("Richards"). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Again, Applicants note that these claims depend upon independent claims discussed initially above. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that Richards does not overcome the deficiencies discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Spies and Novoa does not render obvious the claims of the present invention and kindly request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 8-11, 20-23, 29-30 and 41-44.

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John E. Curtin at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

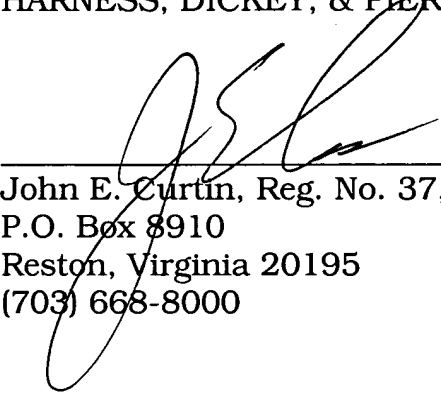
In the event this Response does not place the present application in condition for allowance, applicant requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 to schedule a personal interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



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